## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Atty. Docket: ARIYASU=1A

In re Application of:

Toshio ARIYASU et. al.

Appln. No.: 09/617,545

Date Filed or 102(e) date:
July 14, 2000

For: HEDGEHOG PROTEIN

ACCOMF. No.: 5549

Art Unit: 1644

Examiner:

Washington, D.C.

May 20, 2004

## SECOND REQUEST FOR STATUS

Honorable Commissioner for Patents U.S. Patent and Trademark Office 2011 South Clark Place Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1803 Arlington, Virginia 22202

## Sir:

As more than 46 months have passed since this application was filed or entered into the United States National Stage and more than seven (7) months since prosecution was suspended, the applicants hereby respectfully make inquiry as to the status of the above-identified application.

As 37 CFR 1.2 states that the action of the PTO "will be based exclusively on the written record", applicant needs and therefore requests a written reply.

Respectfully submitted,

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